

WICHITA ANIMAL SHELTER LOST PET INFO SHEET

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO FIND MY LOST PET?

Step 1: Visit Both Shelters

- Start looking for your pet immediately. Don't wait several days thinking, "It'll come back on its own". **Kansas State Law only requires a 72-hour holding period.** If you wait it may be too late.
- **DO NOT CALL.** Visit the following shelters at least once every three days. Your pet's breed, color, or age description may differ from that of the shelter employees.

WICHITA ANIMAL SHELTER

3303 N. Hillside

838-9623

Mon. – Fri. 10AM to 6:30PM

Sat., Sun., Most Holidays 1PM to 5PM

Strays held only 72 hours including most holidays

Animals impounded by Wichita Animal Services or

Sedgwick County Animal Control housed here.

No information about strays given over phone,
must visit shelter.

KANSAS HUMANE SOCIETY

4218 Southeast Blvd.

524-9196

Thurs. – Tues. 11AM to 6PM

CLOSED WEDNESDAY

Strays held for 3 days not including Wednesdays
or Holidays

The public brings in all strays

They do not pick up strays

Information will not be given out over phone.

- Don't rely on shelter employees to find your pet. They handle thousands of animals a year and are too busy properly caring for the animals to look for all the lost pets.
- Unfortunately, cars hit a lot of animals running loose. You can check the descriptions of dead animals picked up by calling City of Wichita Animal Services at 268-8378 and Sedgwick County Animal Control at 660-7070. Ask for the dead animal list.
- If your pet was wearing a veterinary tag, call your vet and update any information that may not be valid and notify them that the animal is missing.
- Ask mail carriers, neighborhood children and paper deliverers if they have seen your pet.
- Cats are notorious for getting into places that can be closed up on them. Ask your neighbors to check their garages and sheds.
- **DON'T GIVE UP!** It can take weeks to find a lost pet. If you find an animal, please turn it in to the Wichita Animal Shelter to give the owner a chance to find it. Under the assumption "they'll just put it to sleep", many well meaning people have caused weeks of anxiety because they did not turn an animal in to the proper authority when it was found. Responsible pet owners are looking for their pets at the designated facilities. Many of these well meaning people have caused animals to be destroyed that would have otherwise been claimed by turning them in after the owner had given up looking.

REMEMBER

1. DO NOT CALL.
2. YOU MUST VISIT BOTH SHELTERS AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 3 DAYS.
3. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO LOOK FOR YOUR LOST PET.
4. YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN IDENTIFY YOUR LOST PET.
5. DON'T GIVE UP.

Step 2: Advertise

- Call KFDI Pet Patrol at 821-2008. Free airing during the 10AM and 3PM broadcast hours on AM 1070.
- Call Penny Power at 688-6000. Free lost ad.
- Call The Wichita Eagle at 262-4222. \$1.00 per day for lost ad.
- Post signs and flyers only where allowed by ordinance. Do not post signs or flyers on utility poles. When passing out flyers do not put them in mailboxes. Place them between the flag and the mailbox.

Post flyers at: local gas stations, grocery stores, community centers, veterinary clinics and both shelters.

When you are advertising for your lost pet you need to leave vital information:

- Status – Lost or Found
- Breed – Breed or breeds of mixed breed dogs.
- Gender – Male, Female, Neutered Male, Spayed Female.
- Color – Predominant color first.
- Description – Distinctive marks, collars or tags.
- Phone Number – All contacts phone numbers.
- Vicinity – Major cross intersections.

If you choose to offer a reward, be cautious. You should take a friend or relative with you to see any animal that might be yours. People have been robbed and severely injured in a rush to reclaim their animal. Honest people would give you their address, not meeting in a strange location and trust you to give them a reward instead of wanting to see the money before they show you the animal.

Step 3: Check the Internet

- www.lostdogwichita.com- Free ad posting.
- www.wichitapetfinder.com - Free ad posting.
- www.dogdetective.com - Free ad posting.
- www.kansas.com - Free ad posting.
- www.wichita.gov - Animals impounded at the Wichita Animal Shelter posted daily.

WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU FIND YOUR PET?

- **HAVE YOUR PET SPAYED OR NEUTERED!** There is absolutely no rational reason to breed most animals. The Wichita Animal Shelter takes in approximately 10,000 animals a year and has to euthanise 75% of these animals because there aren't enough good homes for all of them and that people don't spay or neuter their pets. It's not just a problem in Wichita this is a nation wide problem. If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem.
- Do not let your pet run loose for any reason, or for any amount of time. Most animals impounded were only out for a few minutes to use the "bathroom" and "never leave the yard".
- The most precious gift you can give to your pet is to promptly buy a collar and tag with your personal information. This will help assure a safe return if they happen to stray. Below are a few local stores that have tag machines, you can make your personalized tag in a few minutes:

Wal-Mart – West Wichita
10600 W. 21st N.

Wal-Mart – North Wichita
3030 N. Rock Rd.

Petco – North Wichita
3050 N. Rock Rd.

Wal-Mart – West Wichita
6110 W. Kellogg

Wal-Mart – Derby
220 N. S.E. Blvd.

Petsmart – North Wichita
3615 N. Rock Rd.

Wal-Mart – South Wichita
501 E. Pawnee

Petco – West Wichita
6840 W. Kellogg

Petsmart – West Wichita
533 S. Tracy

The Wichita Animal Shelter has numbered tags, like the one that you get at the vet, for a \$3.00 donation.

- Tags can be lost but microchips are forever. Contact your veterinarian or any area vet to find out if they can microchip your pet. Both shelters scan incoming animals for microchips.